

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A composition for forming a coating upon a substrate when applied and cured thereon, said composition comprising:
 - (a) an epoxy-functional silane;
 - (b) a multipodal silane;
 - (c) a strong acid; and
 - (d) a solvent;
 - (e) wherein said epoxy-functional silane is present in a molar ratio to said multipodal silane that ranges from between 0.3:1 to 0.7:1.
2. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solvent, an organic solvent, and a non-polar liquid.
3. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 wherein said organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of an alcohol, an ether, a cyclic ether, and a ketone.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said strong acid is present in a molar ratio to said epoxy-functional silane that ranges from between 0.01:1 to 0.5:1.
7. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said molar ratio of said strong acid to said epoxy-functional silane is from between 0.02:1 to 0.15:1.
8. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said strong acid is selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, phosphorous acid, sulfuric acid, sulfurous acid, nitric acid, nitrous acid, and alkyl and aryl sulfonic and di-sulfonic acids.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) A composition for forming a coating upon a substrate when applied and cured thereon, said composition comprising:

(a) an epoxy-functional silane;

(b) a multipodal silane;

(c) a strong acid;

(d) a solvent; and

(e) a condensation catalyst selected from the group consisting of an amine condensation catalyst and an amide condensation catalyst.

11. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises at least one silane additive.

12. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises at least one organic functional additive.

13. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises colloidal silica.

14. (Original) The composition of Claim 13 wherein said colloidal silica includes particulate silica having an average diameter no greater than 75 nanometers.

15. (Original) The composition of Claim 14 wherein said average diameter of said particulate silica is no greater than 50 nanometers.

16. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises a metal oxide composite colloid material.

17. (Original) The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition further comprises at least one surfactant.

18-40 (Cancelled)

41. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous solvent, an organic solvent, and a non-polar liquid.

42. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 41 wherein said organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of an alcohol, an ether, a cyclic ether, and a ketone.

43. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said strong acid is present in a molar ratio to said epoxy-functional silane that ranges from between 0.01:1 to 0.5:1.

44. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said molar ratio of said strong acid to said epoxy-functional silane is from between 0.02:1 to 0.15:1.

45. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said strong acid is selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, phosphorous acid, sulfuric acid, sulfurous acid, nitric acid, nitrous acid, and alkyl and aryl sulfonic and disulfonic acids.

46. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition further comprises at least one silane additive.

47. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition further comprises at least one organic functional additive.

48. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition further comprises colloidal silica.

49. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 48 wherein said colloidal silica includes particulate silica having an average diameter no greater than 75 nanometers.

50. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 49 wherein said average diameter of said particulate silica is no greater than 50 nanometers.

51. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition further comprises a metal oxide composite colloid material.

52. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition further comprises at least one surfactant.

53-64 (Cancelled)